E
711
.L38

Class E 711
Book .L 85

C A N A D A'S C L A I M S

BEFORE THE

ANGLO-AMERICAN JOINT HIGH COMMISSION

BY

AGNES CHRISTINA LAUT

FROM

THE AMERICAN REVIEW of REVIEWS

APRIL 1899

CANADA'S CLAIMS BEFORE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

BY AGNES C. LAUT.

[Miss Laut, who is on of the foremost of Canadian writers for the press and who is conversant with politics and affairs in all parts of British North America, has followed the work of the Joint High Commission with close attention. She was expressly invited in writing the following article to give readers in the United States the benefit of the purely Canadian point of view.—THE EDITOR.]

IT may be taken for granted that American investment of foreign islands and British occupation of African regions have a higher purpose than the gratification of national vanity by spreading the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack over alien races. The shaping of events beyond human control may compel the government of the weak by the strong, but mere accession of territory is entirely secondary to the motive underlying the forward movement of Anglo-Saxondom. Benefits of the highest importance to the cause of civilization and of material weight with the countries absorbed, as well as the countries absorbing, far exceed temporary loss to the United States and Great Britain and prompt the policies of both nations.

Of the conference of the Anglo-American commission almost the same may be said. The commissioners tried to obtain for the United States and Canada all the advantages accruing from extension of dominion without the expenditure of blood and money entailed by war. Already the governments centered in Washington and Ottawa are similar in the essentials of freedom; but because a different flag floats on each side of an imaginary dividing line, both countries are denied all the benefits which result from a merging of common interests. According to the most sanguine expectations, the armaments of the United States and Great Britain can only bring about the partial civilization of small patches of the globe and slight additions to the volume of each nation's foreign trade. In all quarters it is acknowledged that the settlement of those international difficulties which have kept the two Anglo-Saxon races in quarrelsome mood would do more for world-wide civilization than the most daring optimist ever planned, and result in manifold increase of commerce between the United States and the country which is now her fourth best customer. The policy of expansion has proved costly beyond any estimate made beforehand. The policy of conciliation embodied in the conference involved not a single sacrifice and offered full equivalent for every concession requested. Vast military expenditures, with their ominous possibilities of bloodshed, have received general approval in the United States and Great Britain; but this international conference, with assurance of peace, was subjected to all the haggling of market-place hucksters, lest one party should emerge from negotiations without a fat surplus of advantages over the other. Emissaries from the republic and the Dominion have been scouring the earth for trade proselytes. At the same time, both governments have been doing everything in their power to blockade and shut off the nearest and most natural avenues of trade. If any illustration were needed to prove the wisdom of Anglo Saxon coöperation in foreign dealings, Canada's action when Spanish hostiles made Montreal a basis of operations, and Great Britain's when European powers threatened to embarrass the United States in the Cuban war, might be cited; yet the aims of the international commissioners to lay the foundations of permanent harmony suffered every misrepresentation.

A frank statement of Canada's attitude toward this conference should clear away much of the misunderstanding which obscured the real issues in the negotiations. The Dominion approached each subject of dispute in a spirit of compromise. This scarcely requires proof. The unofficial utterances of British and Canadian statesmen testify that with them the conference was not regarded as an end in itself. Through the Spanish war, which swept aside every vestige of ill-feeling between the United States and Great Britain, the Dominion became, as it were, the meeting ground for the two great Anglo-Saxon nations; and the negotiations, first arranged as a purely colonial matter for the settlement of all the international differences, became not only the means toward an imperial end, but part of the broader scheme for an Anglo-Saxon brotherhood. The first requisite for the realization of the lofty ideals was the removal of every cause of friction between the republic and the empire—in other words, the satisfactory settlement of all disputes over Canadian affairs. This was no easy undertaking, as the length of the conference has demon-

for example—has never been explained by the objectors to the preferential tariff

On the subject of reciprocity Canada's contention can hardly be described as unreasonable. Indeed, it has been indorsed by the chambers of commerce in all the leading cities of the Union; and who opposed it? Not the consumers in both countries—and they constitute the majority if the greatest good to the greatest number be a consideration. A few rings and trusts and two or three coal kings and lumber barons were the real obstacles in the way of reciprocity. The lumber and fisheries disputes were but different phases of the reciprocity question. Canada admits American lumber free of duty, and almost $3,000 000 of forest products annually enter the Northwest Territories and other parts of the Dominion from Minnesota and adjacent States. The Dingley tariff, imposing a two-dollar duty on Canadian timber and spiking Canada's guns by stipulating that the amount of our export duty on logs should be added to this tariff on lumber from countries where an export duty prevailed, caused a decrease in the lumber exports of the Dominion to the extent of $5,000,000 in one year. The provision against export duties rendered a Dominion export tax ineffective; so the province of Ontario took matters into her own hands and passed a law compelling all owners of timber limits to saw logs cut from crown lands within the province. The British North America Act, which is the Dominion's constitution, gave Ontario full power to enact such a measure, and Quebec threatens to follow her sister province's example and to pass a similar measure regarding pulp-wood. Both provinces are acting on the supposition that Canadian logs are indispensable to the American consumer. The supposition would seem to be sustained by fact; for nearly thirty mill owners of Michigan threaten to appeal to the imperial government against Ontario's law, and out of 1,500,000 acres of spruce lands owned by the International Paper Company of the United States, more than 1,250,000 lie in Canada. The protest of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association against the commissioners "furnishing protection to a combination [the paper trust] organized in restraint of trade and intended to extort excessive prices from a representative industry" is to the same effect—that Canadian logs are a necessity for the American consumer. While the American manufacturers and consumers look to the Dominion for their log supply, the United States Government has placed practically a prohibitive duty on lumber and pulp. In other words, Canadian forests are to be stripped for the profit of the United States, and the Dominion is to be shut off from all participation in that profit. This kind of an arrangement appears somewhat one-sided to the people of Canada. Is it surprising that their commissioners held out stoutly on the lumber question, expecting nothing less than free lumber for free logs? To the manufacturers of lumber and paper the Dominion's stand on this subject may seem obstinate to the extent of frustrating negotiations; but to the 157 daily newspapers of the United States and to the consumers from whom the lumber and paper rings extort excessive prices Canada does not seem so unreasonable.

Related to reciprocity, the Atlantic fisheries were, perhaps, the most complicated subject before the commissioners. Newfoundland, not yet a part of the Dominion, the bearing of old treaties as well as the present *modus vivendi*, and the prospect of American bounties to deep-sea fishermen handicapping rivals had all to be taken into account. Newfoundland holds the vantage-ground in this dispute. Her inshore fisheries have an exhaustless supply of bait—herring, squid, and capelin—without which deep-sea fishing would be paralyzed. Under the *modus vivendi* from 60 to 80 American vessels annually have entered Newfoundland harbors for herring, and thousands of tons of frozen herring, bought from Newfoundland fishermen, have been sent to the United States duty free as the product of American industry. These facts seem to show that the island colony had something to offer for the concessions desired by the Canadian and Newfoundland commissioners—namely, remission of the American duty on fish. Canada and Newfoundland based their claims on the treaty of 1818, which provided that American fishermen should not have access to the inhabited coasts of the north Atlantic, except for wood, water, shelter, and repairs. By removing the duty on fish in the treaty of 1854 the United States purchased the rights to the inshore privileges of buying bait in Canadian ports, shipping and bonding the catch, and obtaining supplies. These rights were again purchased by the concession of free fish in the Washington treaty of 1871. Both treaties virtually recognized Canada's interpretation of the 1818 treaty as reasonable.

When the Bayard-Chamberlain agreement of 1888 was rejected by the United States Senate the present *modus vivendi* was established. This permits American fishing-vessels inshore privileges in Canadian and Newfoundland waters on payment of a license fee of $1.50 per ton register to the colonial government; but the *modus vivendi* was only a temporary device until a comprehensive fisheries treaty could be

entered the conference better than any other subject on the programme. The American proposition for the total abolition of pelagic sealing meant the relinquishment of the entire industry by Canada and the wiping out of the British Columbia sealing-fleet. Though by the decision of the Paris tribunal pelagic sealing was strictly within the Dominion's right, Canada was ready to compromise on this question if met in an equally fair spirit by the United States on other disputes. For the British Columbia sealers, whose vocation would have been suppressed, a money compensation to the exact amount of their schooners' value would have been accepted; and for the whole Dominion, which would have been a general loser by the abolition of a leading industry, nothing was expected but fair treatment on the other subjects of negotiation. On the Bering Sea matter Canada's attitude was more generous than worldly wise.

Failing to receive the consideration which had been expected regarding reciprocity and Atlantic fisheries by way of compensation for the loss of the sealing industry to the whole Dominion, Canada was not prepared to make bootless sacrifices in the Alaska boundary dispute. The clauses of the treaty between Russia and Great Britain in 1825 and Russia and the United States in 1867 which describe the boundary between Alaska and Canada are hopelessly ambiguous. This was admitted by both sides of the conference. From Mt. St. Elias northward the dividing line has been scientifically ascertained and finally laid down. The uncertainty exists only from St. Elias to Prince of Wales' Island. With regard to the southern part of the disputed territory, the treaties direct that from the point of commencement the line "shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the fifty-sixth degree of north latitude." The following of these directions is a geographical impossibility for two reasons: Portland Channel is from fifty to seventy miles due east of the point of commencement, and it does not strike the fifty-sixth degree of latitude at all. Behm Canal is north and reaches the fifty-sixth degree; hence Canada considers that the waters of the latter rather than the former inlet were designated, the wrong name being used in the clauses owing to the hazy geographical knowledge of the treaty makers. The difference in the names involves sovereignty over 3,000 square miles of territory rich in fisheries, if not minerals.

From Mt. St. Elias eastward the boundary is equally ill-defined. The treaties state that "wherever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast, from the fifty-sixth degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the one hundred and forty-first degree of west longtitude, shall prove to be at the distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia as above mentioned shall be found by a line parallel to the windings of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom." What mountains are intended? The coast mountains are not a continuous range, and the nearest continuous range is further than ten marine leagues. If the line follow the windings of the coast, shall it run from headland to headland or pursue the innermost reach of each inlet? The former would give Canada independent access to the Yukon; the latter would confirm the American title to Skagway and Dyea. Plainly, the difference here was too great for easy compromise and was a proper subject for impartial arbitration. The American commissioners thought that six jurists, three on each side—without an umpire in case of a deadlock—would constitute a proper court of decision. Canada foresaw the same balanced opposition in the proposed tribunal as had occurred in the conference, and wishing the matter finally and impartially settled, the British commissioners requested that the whole question be treated in the same way as the Venezuela dispute. Was Canada unreasonable in this? Were the rules governing the Venezuela dispute good in one case and bad in another?

Such were the leading subjects before the conference. In trade Canada asked but a fraction of the favors she bestows, and her position was indorsed by the leading mercantile bodies of the United States. In the matter of lumber and pulp Canada expected a free market for free logs, and 157 daily newspapers of the United States seemed, by their protest, to think that she should have it. In the Atlantic fisheries Canada based her claims on a clause of the treaty of 1818 which has been repeatedly recognized in formal compacts and negotiations by American statesmen. In bonding Canada's interests were identical with the shippers' of the northwestern and New England States. In the sealing dispute she was willing to wipe out one of her industries. In the boundary embroglio Canada would have welcomed a settlement that was fully satisfactory to the United States in the case of Venezuela. In none of these things were the Dominion's expectations excessive or exacting.

These are only a few of the subjects of mutual interest that interlink Canada and the United States. Coasting laws, canal privileges, mining

Mr. Punch. *What a thirsty work good cigars and good company, my dear Mr. Jonathan! I shall always remember the meeting with pleasure.*

Mr. Jonathan. *Well, Mr. Bull, I guess I've had a real good time too. Never knew when we'd met before you were the smoking.*

Mr. Bull. *And now, Mr. Jonathan, can't we do a little business together—something mutually advantageous? I am sure Canadian lumber would, for instance, be a line in tariffs and open doors?*

Mr. Jonathan. *Humph! it's just the kind of wood I like, Mr. Bull, but I ain't taking any Canadian this year, and it makes me tired to hear you and Sir Wilfrid talk about that wood.*

Mr. Bull. *Oh come, Mr. Jonathan, just for the sake of the good time we've had together. You said you'd like to be a help to me in that little South African business—that it help us both.*

Mr. Jonathan. *Well, guess there's something in that, and, bless me, I want to be friendly with the old firm.—*

(Discussion to be resumed.)

From the *Westminster Budget*.

THE AMERICAN MONTHLY REVIEW OF REVIEWS

Illustrated — April 1899

Edited by ALBERT SHAW

APRIL 1899

Material Problems in the Philippines.
By Samuel W. Belford.

The Czar's Peace Conference.
By Edwin Munsell Bliss.

M. Loubet, the New French President.

The Election at Versailles.
By Lucy M. Salmon.

Canada's Claims Before the Joint High Commission.
By Agnes C. Laut.

American and "Malay" in Hawaii.
By Winthrop L. Marvin.

Mr. Kipling in America.

The Evolution of the College President.
By Henry A. Stimson.

Landscape Gardening for Factory Homes.
By William Howe Tolman.

A Group of Native American Musicians.

A NUMBER OF TIMELY PORTRAITS AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS CO., 13 Astor Place, New York.

Vol. XIX. No. 111.

Entered at N.Y. Post Office as Second-Class Matter.

Copyright 1899 by THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS CO.

Price 25c. ($2.50 a Year.)

THE "Automatic"

Burns Acetylene Gas . . .

BICYCLE AND CARRIAGE LAMP

No Wicks
No Absorbents
No Regulating Valves
No Attention Required
Burns Best When Left Alone

"Automatic" A GAS LAMP that is as it's name implies

Absolutely self-governing : : : :

AUTOMATIC

$2.50

BANNER

The Most Reliable Lamp Made Using Kerosene Oil

$1.75

The Plume & Atwood Mfg. Co.

NEW YORK - CHICAGO

DO THIS — PUT A

Veeder

CYCLOMETER on your wheel. It is as useful as your watch. One measures distance, the other time; both are essential factors of every business or pleasure trip. To every cyclist the Veeder Cyclometer is a necessity.

Made for 24, 26, 28, and 30 inch Wheels.

VEEDER MFG. CO., HARTFORD, CONN

Amateur Photography.

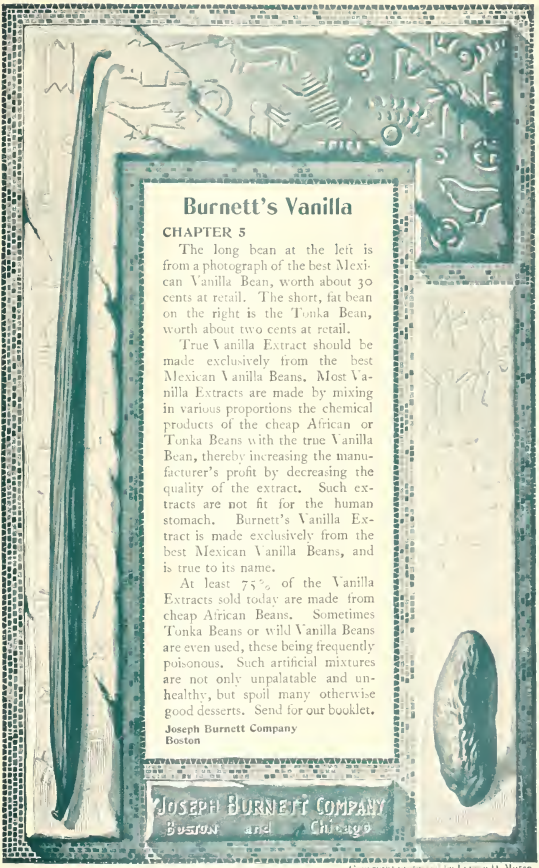
Success Depends upon the Plate.

The Lovell Plate

rapidity, brilliancy, film quality.

Our New Plate,

LOVELL DRY PLATE MFG. CO.,
Dept. R. New Rochelle, N. Y.


Burnett's Vanilla
CHAPTER 5
The long bean at the left is from a photograph of the best Mexican Vanilla Bean, worth about 30 cents at retail. The short, fat bean on the right is the Tonka Bean, worth about two cents at retail.
True Vanilla Extract should be made exclusively from the best Mexican Vanilla Beans. Most Vanilla Extracts are made by mixing in various proportions the chemical products of the cheap African or Tonka Beans with the true Vanilla Bean, thereby increasing the manufacturer's profit by decreasing the quality of the extract. Such extracts are not fit for the human stomach. Burnett's Vanilla Extract is made exclusively from the best Mexican Vanilla Beans, and is true to its name.
At least 75% of the Vanilla Extracts sold today are made from cheap African Beans. Sometimes Tonka Beans or wild Vanilla Beans are even used, these being frequently poisonous. Such artificial mixtures are not only unpalatable and unhealthy, but spoil many otherwise good desserts. Send for our booklet.
Joseph Burnett Company
Boston
JOSEPH BURNETT COMPANY
BOSTON and CHICAGO

Copyright published by Lyman D. Morse.

The Story of Vanilla — *Chapter 5*

PRESS OF FERRIS BROS., 324-330 PEARL STREET, NEW YORK CITY

BAKER'S CHOCOLATE.

Imitations on the market!

YELLOW LABEL

TRADE-MARK ON THE BACK.

Take only the genuine,

MADE BY

WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd.,

DORCHESTER, MASS.

HOT TEA BISCUIT

are Quickly, Easily Made with

ROYAL Baking Powder

Perfect, Delicious, Appetizing.

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer

Brings the old color back; no more faded or gray hair. Makes growth more rapid; short hair becomes long hair. Holds the hair firmly in place; the hair stops falling out. Completely removes dandruff; baldness is prevented. Feeds the hair bulbs; new hair grows on bald heads.

If your [illegible] cannot supply you, send one dollar to

R. P. Hall & Co., Nashua, N. H.

VOSE PIANOS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 013 788 332 6